



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/021,956	12/17/2001	Frank William Schadewald JR.	STL 10019.00 (30874.113US)	1979
23552	7590	06/22/2004	EXAMINER	
MERCHANT & GOULD PC P.O. BOX 2903 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903			CHEN, TIANJIE	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2652	
DATE MAILED: 06/22/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

16

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/021,956	SCHADEWALD ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Tianjie Chen	2652	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 April 2004.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-10 and 18-21 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) 1-10 and 21 is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 18 and 19 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 20 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 12 April 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

Art Unit: 2652

Final Rejection (RCE)

Telephone Interview

1. In telephone interview conducted on 01/05/2004, Applicant agrees on the following amendment:

- In claim 1, lines 2; --magnetic read/write-- is inserted before "head."
- In claim 18, line 1; --for protecting a magnetic read/write head assembly circuit from electrostatic discharge-- is inserted before "comprising."

Examiner also requires further amending claim 21 as follows:

- In claim 21, line 1; --for protecting a magnetic read/write head assembly circuit from electrostatic discharge-- is inserted after "device."

To confirm the agreed and required amendments, Applicant is required in the Office action mailed on 01/12/2004 to include the above amendments in the next response; however, the correction does not appear in Amendment filed on 04/12/2004.

Applicant is required again to include the above amendments in the next response in the Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Art Unit: 2652

2. Claims 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Johansen (US 5,963,415).

With regard to claims 18 and 19, Johansen shows a protection device as described above, which includes: means for electrically communicating with a circuit to be protected; and means for reversibly shorting a portion of the circuit to be protected by lifting means 56 for electrically communicating relative to the circuit 16 during operation of the device so as to separate the means for electrically communicating and the circuit, and returning the means for electrically communicating from the lifted position relative to the circuit to a position in which the means for electrically communicating and the circuit are electrically connected; a pair of electrical contacts that are moveable from a first position in which the electrical contacts are in electrical communication with the circuit to be protected to a second position in which the electrical contacts are not in electrical communication with the circuit to be protected.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-10 and 21 are allowed.

Claim 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

- With regard to claim 1, Johansen (US 5,963,415) shows an electrostatic discharge protection device for protecting magnetic read/write head assembly

Art Unit: 2652

having a shunt, the shunt has a first position and second position, **but fails to show** that the second position is within the housing.

Applicant's invention would keeps the communicating means functioning in the device all the time.

- With regard to claims 20 and 21, as the closest reference, Johansen (US 5,963,415) shows an electrostatic discharge protection device for protecting magnetic read/write head assembly having a deshunting pin, but fail to show a deshunting rail.

Applicant's rail can be moved manually or moved by a mechanical testing apparatus between the shunted and unshunted positions (Specification, p. 7, lines 13-15).

Response to Arguments

- Applicant's arguments filed 04/12/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., the features recited above) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tianjie Chen whose telephone number is (703) 305-7499. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30, Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa Nguyen can be reached on (703) 305-9687. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2652

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



TIANJIE CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER